

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /063 W

----- 064553

R 211128Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3006

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0903

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT AO

SUBJ: ANGOLAN JUNTA MEETS WITH AGOSTINHO NETO

REF: LUANDA 893

1. THE OCTOBER 21 EDITION OF "A PROVINCIA" OF LUANDA CARRIED A STORY ABOUT A HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION FROM THE ANGOLAN JUNTA THAT ARRIVED OCTOBER 20 IN LUSO. THE ARTICLE SPECULATED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS TO TALK WITH MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO, WHO IS NOW INSIDE ANGOLA.

2. A MILITARY SOURCE HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE REPORTER GUESSED RIGHT, BUT THAT THE AUTHORITIES ARE KEEPING ALL DETAILS SECRET UNTIL THE MEETING IS OVER. MY SOURCE GAVE ME THE FOLLOWING RUNDOWN.

3. THE LAST CLASH BETWEEN THE MPLA AND PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES WAS ON JULY 29. SINCE THAT TIME THE PORTUGUESE HAVE ALLOWED MPLA ELEMENTS TO ENTER EASTERN ANGOLA (SOUTH AND EAST OF LUMBALA) AND TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH THE POPULACE. AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE ARE BETWEEN 300 AND 400 MPLA TROOPS IN ANGOLA. AS A RESULT OF INCREASINGLY FREQUENT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE MPLA AND PORTUGUESE FORCES A CLIMATE OF UNDERSTANDING GROWN UP; THE TWO SIDES

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TUGUESE FORCES A CLIMATE OF UNDERSTANDING GROWN UP; THE TWO SIDES

PLAY SOCCER AND OTHER SPORTS REGULARLY.

4. THE ANGOLAN JUNTA USED THE CONTACTS IT MADE IN THE EAST TO ATTEMPT TO GET NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY. AS A RESULT OF EFFORTS MADE IN ANGOLA AND THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT IN LISBON, ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO OPEN TALKS WITH NETO NEAR THE ZAMBIAN BORDER.

5. THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION INCLUDES TWO JUNTA MEMBERS AND A SENIOR MINISTER. THE GROUP ARRIVED IN LUMBALA EARLY ON OCTOBER 21 AND WENT IMMEDIATELY TO AN UNDISCLOSED SITE TO MEET WITH NETO. IF THE DISCUSSIONS INDICATE THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED AN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE.
KILLORAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JUNTA, VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS, LIBERATION FRONTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUANDA00903
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740300-0113
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741031/aaaaazym.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LUANDA 893
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLAN JUNTA MEETS WITH AGOSTINHO NETO
TAGS: PINT, AO, MPLA, (NETO, AGOSTINHO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005